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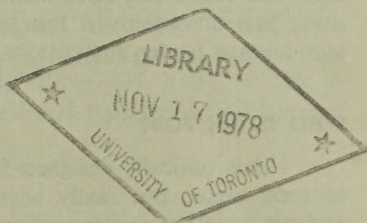
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KNOW YOUR 4-H

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KNOW YOUR 4-H

Now that you've joined a 4-H club you may be wondering what it's all about. Nobody—neither you nor me—could know everything about 4-H. It's just too big. Besides—the amazing thing about 4-H is its versatility. The 4-H idea has been developed in 80 different countries to suit the members there. As we go across Ontario there are a lot of differences in the 4-H program. So you see, nobody has the whole story on 4-H. These questions and answers should give you some idea, however, on 4-H agricultural clubs in Ontario.



WHAT?

WHAT IS 4-H ALL ABOUT?

4-H is a program for you and your friends. Basically, it's an opportunity for people to learn to work with people. Everyone meets together as a club to plan activities, to have fun, and to learn from your leader, a guest speaker, or each other.

WHEN DID 4-H BEGIN?

The 4-H idea started during the years 1913-1915 when boys' potato and livestock clubs were organized in several counties. From then until 1952 these and other clubs were called Boys' and Girls' Clubs. In 1952 the name 4-H was officially adopted.



WHY?

WHAT DOES 4-H MEAN?

The name 4-H comes from the first letter of these four words — Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

The first "H" is the symbol standing for the training of our Heads to think and to plan.

The second "H" is the symbol standing for the training of our Hearts to be kind, sympathetic and loyal.

The third "H" is the symbol standing for the training of our Hands to be skillful, helpful and useful.

The fourth "H" is the symbol standing for the importance of Health.



WHO?

WHY DO WE HAVE 4-H CLUBS ANYWAY?

We have 4-H in Ontario because kids like you want it. Leaders and other adults who work with 4-H talk about the needs of youth and make lists of objectives. But to you, 4-H is an opportunity to mix learning and having fun.

WHO IS 4-H FOR?

4-H is basically designed for young people living on farms and in rural areas. But really anyone who is interested can join. 4-H agricultural clubs are open to boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 19 as of January 1 of the current year.

HOW MANY MEMBERS ARE THERE IN 4-H IN CANADA?

There are about 27,000 4-H members of which 17,000 are Homemaking club members and 10,000 are Agricultural club members.

About 1,400 leaders are involved in over 700 4-H agricultural clubs. The members collectively take 13,000 agricultural club projects each year.

There are over 7 million 4-H'ers in the world. 75,000 of these are Canadians.

WHO RUNS 4-H?

The 4-H members run their own local club program with one or more adult leaders to help out. There is a whole team of people working on 4-H activities. First of all, each member no matter how young, should take an active part in planning and running the local program. Senior members have the special role of sharing their experiences, by helping younger members. Parents and other members in your community can help by providing encouragement and resources for a worthwhile program. Leaders are community members who make a special contribution by co-ordinating the local program and planning activities in co-operation with 4-H members. Finally, a county extension worker (4-H Co-ordinator) with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food is someone that leaders and members can go to for supplies or information or advice on their local activities.



WHAT ABOUT RULES AND REGULATIONS?

4-H clubs don't have a long list of rules and regulations. Your leader knows about certain guidelines and he'll advise you if you have a question. But 4-H tries to remain flexible. The local 4-H members can shape and mould their own program to suit their own interests. Together with your leader, you and your fellow club members can have a custom-built program.

RULES!

WHAT DOES THE PHRASE "LEARN TO DO BY DOING" REALLY MEAN?

That phrase is the motto of 4-H clubs in Canada. In 4-H clubs you learn by listening and studying a little bit too. But mostly you learn by actually doing or at least trying. That's why 4-H includes various projects.

But "learn to do by doing" means more. It challenges you as a 4-H'er to become interested and active in yourself, your club, your community, your country, and your world. Your leader may need your help to give a demonstration at a meeting. Maybe you and your family can host an upcoming club activity. Also, you can help with games and songs to liven up your 4-H meetings. You can help to plan a social evening to tell your community about 4-H. You'll be able to think of lots of ways to involve yourself and start doing and learning at the same time.

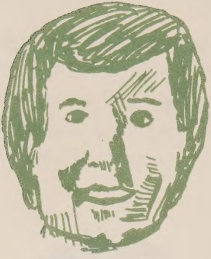


SHOULD I LEARN THE 4-H PLEDGE?

Yes, you'll probably repeat it in unison with the other club members at the beginning or end of each meeting. Here are the exact words.

OUR MOTTO! OUR PLEDGE!

I Pledge — My Head to clearer thinking,
My Heart to greater loyalty,
My Hands to larger service,
My Health to better living,
for my club, my community, and my country.



WHAT HAPPENS AT A 4-H MEETING?

WHAT HAPPENS AT A 4-H MEETING?

At each regular 4-H meeting the agenda usually includes the 4-H Pledge, club business (roll call, minutes, planning the next meeting, etc.), a lesson, and some kind of recreation. Sometimes the lesson may take the form of a tour, a demonstration by other 4-H'ers, or the club leaders, a film or a guest speaker.

Members will be asked to introduce and thank any guest speakers and the host for your meeting.

DO I HAVE TO GO TO EVERY MEETING?

As a 4-H member you are expected to attend the regular club meetings as well as special activities planned for your club. Learning to get along with people and making plans together is part of the 4-H training. So be at meetings on time, every time. If you must be absent for any good reason, just tell your leader.

HOW YOUR CLUB IS RUN

At the beginning of the club year, you will take part in an election to choose a President, Vice-President, Secretary and News Reporter for your club.

WHAT ARE THE DUTIES OF THE CLUB PRESIDENT?

To act as chairman at all meetings of the club.

To help the club leaders plan meetings and other activities in advance.

To check with club leaders on arrangements for meetings.

To start and stop meetings on time.

To become familiar with correct parliamentary procedure and conduct meetings accordingly.

To see that visitors are introduced and that those helping with the program are introduced and thanked.

DOES THE VICE-PRESIDENT HAVE ANY SPECIAL JOBS?

He assists the president when required and takes over the duties of the president if necessary.

WHAT SHOULD THE SECRETARY DO?

Handle all correspondence for the club.

Keep minutes of each meeting held.

Keep an accurate record of the attendance of each member at all meetings.

In many cases the Secretary is required to send notices to all club members in advance of a meeting.

If the club has some money the Secretary may assume the duties of Treasurer and then become Secretary-Treasurer.



YOUR CLUB!



EXECUTIVE DUTIES

WHAT ALL DOES A NEWS REPORTER DO?

Give an interesting, accurate and timely report of each 4-H meeting or special club activity to the local newspapers, radio and TV stations.

Give advance publicity to special events.

WHAT SHOULD I DO AS A MEMBER OF MY CLUB?

You've an important part in your club! To make it successful, you'll need to be willing to take part and to help do things with enthusiasm! Maybe it will be planning a game or two for a meeting, working on a committee to plan a special activity, helping make announcement posters for an upcoming club program . . .

Promoting 4-H is every member's job! When you tell your friends about 4-H or, even better, invite them to a 4-H activity, then you're really helping to tell people in your community about 4-H!

HOW DOES A CLUB MAKE DECISIONS?

There are several ways to make decisions in a 4-H club. One way that works well is the same one used by our governments — "parliamentary procedure". With this method there is a chairman (usually the President or Vice-President) who is in charge of the meeting. This person's job is to make sure only one person is talking at a time and that the discussion is kept on topic. He or she should also give everyone a chance to discuss ideas and then, by voting, help the club reach the decision that is suitable to the most members.

Part of parliamentary procedure is having members put an idea in the form of a "motion" before the club can vote on it. Every motion needs to have a "second".

Here is an example of a motion:

JOHN: "I move we have our next meeting at the Anderson's."

MARY: "I second that motion."

CHAIRMAN: "Any discussion?"

HARRY: "That should be a good place to meet. They've just built a new barn!"

CHAIRMAN: "All in favour?" (Most members put up their hands.)

"Opposed?" (Very few members put up their hands.)

"Carried. Our next meeting is at the Anderson's."

Another way 4-H clubs make decisions is by "consensus". This works best in a smaller group (no more than ten or twelve). With this method **all members** discuss the idea and agree to the same decision without having to use a motion.

DO ALL THE MEMBERS IN A CLUB HAVE THE SAME PROJECT?

Most clubs in Ontario are project clubs where all the members have the same project. For example, each member might have a dairy animal. However, in some communities 4-H members are interested in a wide variety of projects. They get together and form a multi-project or community club.

HOW MANY PROJECTS CAN A MEMBER TAKE IN ONE YEAR?

4-H members may take from one to five projects a year.



**YOUR
ROLE!**



**MAKING
DECISIONS!**



PROJECTS!

WHAT PROJECTS CAN BE TAKEN?

Each 4-H club should discuss the kind and variety of projects which they wish to include in their club each year. If any detailed guidelines are desired for these projects they should be developed at the same time.

Each member should prepare his own "project plan" for each project, outlining what he wishes to learn from his project. A member should discuss these plans with both his leaders and parents.

It is important that each member select a project which he is capable of carrying out effectively.

The following is a list of project ideas for 4-H Agricultural Club members:



ANIMAL SCIENCE

If you're interested in farm animals, any of these projects can help you learn more about them. You can learn about care, feeding, breeding, production, evaluation and management.

You'll also keep records on your project.

1. BEEF CATTLE

Breeding Project: Care for a heifer calf, a yearling heifer or a cow.

Market Project: Raise one or more steers or heifers for market.

2. DAIRY CATTLE

Breeding Project: Care for a heifer calf, a yearling heifer or a cow.

Market Project: Raise a pen of 3 or more veal calves or one or more dairy steers.

3. SHEEP

Breeding Project: Care for a flock of 5 or more ewes.

Market Project: Raise a pen of 5 or more market lambs.

4. SWINE

Breeding Project: Raise two gilts or care for a bred sow.

Market Project: Manage a pen of 5 or more market pigs.

5. LIGHT HORSE AND PONY

Learn proper care and safe handling of a horse or pony.

6. RABBITS, POULTRY, GOATS & OTHER SMALL ANIMALS

A hobby can grow into a commercial enterprise; learn how with one of these projects.

7. BEEKEEPING

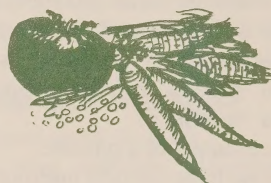
With honey in such demand some 4-H'ers find this project profitable as well as enjoyable.

8. VETERINARY SCIENCE

In this project you'll learn about animal health, diseases common to animals, and some of the treatments used to cure them.

PLANT SCIENCE

Interested in plants? Then a 4-H plant science project is for you! With one of these projects you'll look after a crop plot from planning and planting to harvest and marketing. You'll learn how plants grow, about the soil they grow in, the food they require, problems with weeds, insects and diseases, and the many uses we make of plants.



1. FIELD CROPS

Beans—Grow soybeans or whitebeans.

Cereal Grains—Grow barley, oats, rye or wheat.

Corn—Grow grain corn, silage corn or sweet corn.

Cucumbers or other vine crops

Tomatoes

Potatoes

Turnips or other root crops

2. FRUIT CROPS

Tree Fruits—apples, cherries, peaches, plums, or pears.

Grapes

Small Fruits—strawberries or raspberries

3. GREENHOUSE CROPS

Grow flowers, vegetables or decorating plants in a greenhouse.

4. HOME GARDENS

Grow a vegetable garden or a flower garden.

5. HOME BEAUTIFICATION

You'll learn to plan and budget as you work on a project to beautify your home surroundings.



AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

1. FARM AND HOME ELECTRIC

Learn about the application and safe use of electricity in the home and on the farm.

2. AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

Choose (a) Farm Building design and construction —you'll plan and budget for the construction of a building.

or (b) Tractor and Farm Machinery — learn about operating and maintaining farm machinery keeping safety in mind.

3. SNOWMOBILES

You'll learn about the safe operation and maintenance of a snow machine.

4. SMALL ENGINES

Learn about the maintenance of small engines around the home and farm (lawn mowers, chain saws, garden tractors, etc.)

5. WELDING



FARM MANAGEMENT

A senior project area designed for members 16 years of age and over. Your project may deal with:

(a) Beef or Dairy Herd Management

(b) Farm Accounting

or

(c) Credit

DO I HAVE TO KEEP RECORDS?

Record keeping is an important part of 4-H. If used properly records can be a guide to help you evaluate what you're learning. The key here is to keep meaningful records. Rather than following in detail someone else's idea of what is meaningful try to decide yourself what you want to learn from a certain project. Then say, "How am I going to do it?" Finally after you've analysed your records write a brief report on what you learned. Your leader will help you develop your plan.



NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

1. CONSERVATION

Modern day concern about the need for good conservation practices in rural Ontario has made this a popular program. Your project might be planting a windbreak, constructing a farm pond, improving rough land, studying the history and habitat of wildlife or anything else that puts conservation principles into practice.

2. FORESTRY

Better management of farm woodlots, and the reforestation of non-agricultural land are two of the topics covered in this program. Your project may be based on:

(a) Maple Syrup and Sugar Production

(b) Reforestation and Windbreaks

(c) Woodlot Management

or

(d) Pulp Production

3. AGRICULTURAL METEOROLOGY

Meteorology is a science that deals with the weather and weather forecasting. For people involved in agriculture, knowing the basics in this field can be most worthwhile. The project includes keeping records of maximum - minimum temperatures and precipitation during a regular growing season.

DEVELOP YOUR OWN!

If you've an interest which isn't included here, the local 4-H Coordinator will be happy to discuss it with you as a potential project idea.



**RECORD
KEEPING!**



4-H FAMILY!

SOME PEOPLE SAY THAT 4-H IS A FAMILY AFFAIR. WHAT SHOULD MY FOLKS DO?

Parents have an important role. Don't forget to make them feel like part of the group. Maybe you could host a meeting and your Dad could tell everyone about your farm operation. Tell your parents about what you're doing and learning. Maybe your club could plan a special family meeting.

Your parents will probably help out with some money, or land, or feed, or transportation or whatever else you need as a 4-H member. Don't forget.

SOME 4-H'ERS GET TO GO ON TRIPS, DON'T THEY?

They certainly do. Every summer there are Regional 4-H Conferences at various universities across Ontario. When you're 15 you may be invited to go. During the three days, you'll learn about getting along with others, and will meet lots of 4-H'ers from nearby counties.

BUT THERE ARE OTHER TRIPS TOO, AREN'T THERE?

Yes, there is the Provincial 4-H Leadership Conference which is held during the last week of June. Here senior members have a great time learning about leadership.

Interprovincial 4-H Exchange delegates go to another province of Canada for two weeks. Here is a double opportunity — you could explore another part of Canada, or you could host a visiting delegate from another province.

National 4-H Conference in Toronto and National 4-H Citizenship Seminar in Ottawa are two programs which offer lots of opportunity to meet young people from across Canada.

WHAT ARE 4-H HOMEMAKING CLUBS?

This is a program for girls between the ages of 12 and 26. It offers a wide variety of projects in clothing, foods, crafts, etc. For further information, contact your local Home Economist.

WHERE CAN I GET A 4-H PIN OR CREST?

Your leader or 4-H Co-ordinator has a catalogue of 4-H supplies. The green and white clover emblem of 4-H clubs in Canada turns up everywhere. There are 4-H T-shirts, key chains, charms, etc. as well as pins. Talk about the items you want with other members and send one order for your club.

4-H SUPPLIES!

